Radhepur Power Project

5321 SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE :
SHRI CHITRASEN SINKU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for setting up of a power project of Radhepur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have cleared this project; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Mid Term Review of Eighth Plan

5322. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has undertaken mid term review of Eighth Five Year Plan and has found that social development is unsatisfactory;

(b) whether the Government are satisfied with the efforts being made in regard to primary education, women education, public health services, training to weaker sections and providing housing facilities to the people of lower income group; and

(c) if so, the reasons of position of India to be same as before in human development index despite the various efforts being made by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Planning Commission had undertaken an internal excercise for Mid-term Appraisal of the Eighth Plan. The draft Mid-term Appraisal document showed improvement in the indicators of Social Development over the years. Despite improvement in the indicators of Social Development, India lags behind in comparison to a number of developing countries in human development index, mainly due to large differentials in indicators across States, large variations between Rural and urban Areas, gender disparities and due to wide gaps between the need and the availability in the Country.

[English]

New Employment Scheme

5323. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Governemnt have implemented any employment schemes in urban areas of Kerala in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the existing employment schemes for youths undertaken by the Union Government during the last five years in the State; and

(d) the number of persons benefited in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the recent past a new scheme namely, the Prime Minister's Integrated urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) has been launched in November, 1995. PMI UPEP has a component of self employment through setting up of micro-enterprises. The maximum unit cost under this component is Rs. one lakh and the maximum allowable subsidy is 15% of the project cost subject to a limit of Rs. 7,500. The beneficiary is required to contribute 5% of the project cost as margin money. A sum of Rs. 263.20 lakhs has been released as Central share for the year 1995-96 for the Programme to the State.

(c) The Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment has been implementing the Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) since October, 1989 in the country, including the State of Kerala, with the objective of generating self-employment and wage employment opportunities.

(d) The number of persons assisted under the scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME), which is a component of NRY, since the inception of the scheme in Kerala is 22,727. Under SUWE and SHASU components of NRY, 56.22 lakhs mandays of work have been generated.

[Translation]

Solar Energy

5324. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct a research on the Solar Energy and power alcohol battery operated engines of vehicles as an alternative of Petrol in view of the increasing consumption of petrol in India; and